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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2600

In re Application of:)
: AKITOSHI YAMADA, et al.)
: Application No.: 09/993,641) Group Art Unit: 2621
: Filed: November 27, 2001)
: For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
: APPARATUS AND IMAGE)
: PROCESSING METHOD) July 11, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 4,313,124
U.S. Patent No. 4,345,262
U.S. Patent No. 4,459,600
U.S. Patent No. 4,463,359
U.S. Patent No. 4,558,333
U.S. Patent No. 4,723,129
U.S. Patent No. 4,740,796
U.S. Patent No. 5,289,293
U.S. Patent No. 5,351,137
U.S. Patent No. 5,949,965
U.S. Patent No. 5,973,803
Japan 54-56847
Japan 60-71260

Japan 11-10918
Japan 8-279920
Japan 59-123670
Japan 59-138461
Japan 9-139841

R. W. Floyd, et al., "An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Greyscale",
Proceedings Of The Society For Information Display, Vol. 17, No. 2,
Second Quarter 1976, pp. 75-77.

English language abstracts for each of the foregoing Japanese documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. In addition, it is noted that U.S. Patent 5,949,965 is an English language counterpart of Japan 11-10918 and U.S. Patent 5,973,803 is the English language counterpart of Japan 8-279920 and each of the corresponding U.S. patents have also been cited herein. Further, it is noted that each of the foregoing Japanese documents are discussed in the specification of the subject application and may be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein. In view of the foregoing, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English language documents is believed to be satisfied by one of the English language abstract (MPEP § 609), the U.S. counterparts, and/or the explanation provided in the specification.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

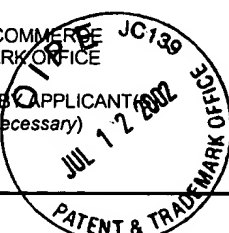
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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022447.		APPLICATION NO. 09/993,641		
			APPLICANT AKITOSHI YAMADA, et al.				
			FILING DATE November 27, 2001			GROUP 2621	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,313,124	01/26/82	Hara	346	140 R	
		4,345,262	08/17/82	Shirato et al.	346	140 R	
		4,459,600	07/10/84	Sato et al.	346	140 R	
		4,463,359	07/31/84	Ayata et al.	346	140 R	RECEIVED JUL 18 2002 Technology Center 2600
		4,558,333	12/10/85	Sugitami et al.	346	140 R	
		4,723,129	02/02/98	Endo et al.	346	1.1	
		4,740,796	04/26/88	Endo et al.	346	1.1	
		5,289,293	02/22/94	Kato et al.	358	457	
		5,351,137	09/27/94	Kato et al.	358	457	
		5,949,965	09/07/99	Gondek	395	109	
		5,973,803	10/26/99	Cheung et al.	358	534	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		54-56847	05/08/79	Japan			Abstract
		60-71260	04/23/85	Japan			Abstract
		11-10918	01/19/99	Japan			Abstract
		8-279920	10/22/96	Japan			Abstract
		59-123670	07/17/84	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		R.W. Floyd, et al., "An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Greyscale", Proceedings Of The Society For Information Display, Vol. 17, No. 2, Second Quarter 1976, pp. 75-77.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 2

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 APPLICANT(S)
 (S)
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